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Choice Poetry.

HAPPIEST DAYS.

They tell us, Love, that you and I
Our happiest days are seeing,
While yet in dust from either's eye
The charm that wakes on being;
Ah! life they say's a weary way,
With loss of joy than sorrow;
For where the sunlight falls to day,
There'll be a shade to-morrow.

If ours be love that will not bear
The test of change and censure,
And only deeper channels wear
In parting to each meeting;
Then better were it that to-day
We fervently were praying,
That what we have might pass away
While we the words were saying.

The heart has depths of bitterness
As well as depths of pleasure;
And those who love, love not, unless
They both of these can measure.
There is a time, and it will come,
When this they must discover;
And woe it either then be dumb
To power that moved the Lover!

There are some spots where each will fall,
And each will need sustainment;
And suffering is the lot of all,
And is of God's ordaining;
Then wherefore do our hearts unite
In bonds that none can sever,
If not to bless each changing light,
And strengthen each endeavor?

Then, while these happy days we bless,
Let us no doubt be sowing;
God's mercy never will be less,
Though He should change the showing
Such be our faith, as on we tread,
Each trusting and obeying,
As two who by His hand are led,
And hear what He is saying.

Original Novelet.

THE BELLE OF THE SPRINGS.

(CONCLUDED.)

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST, BY CAROLINE LEE HENTZ, AUTHOR OF "THE MOB CAP," "LINDA," &c.

[Entered according to the Act of Congress, by Deacon & Peterson, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.]

CHAPTER IV.

Behold the map of the future, as it unrolls before the eyes of Grace Rolland! She is the betrothed bride of Lorraine, who, under the genial influence of love and hope and joy, seems a renovated being. But he must take care of his love, since it is precious to another. He is to pass this Winter in the city of Rome, and when the Spring, too, for its capricious gales are more to be feared than the frosty breath of Winter. In Summer he is to return, to claim the hand of his young and lovely betrothed! Mr. Rolland, after heaving a sigh over his one-in-law stout, Harry Blount, "God blesses them" over and over again, and looks hopefully on the future. The negroes, too, feel "might merry for Master Harry," with whom he is prime favorite, and who has always called Grace his little wife. They have a great respect for physical power and majesty, and could not feel quite reconciled to the idea of their young mistress being married to a man who, though romantically handsome, was obliged to use the support of a crutch. But he is kind, he is good—he loves her, and she loves him—and if God is willing, they ought to be so, too. The leaves have turned to gold on the twigs of the chestnut-tree, they have withered, shriveled, fallen to the ground, and the naked branches stretch out blankly towards a wintry sky. Again the embryo foliage has budded, bloomed, and clothed with graceful drapery the grove in which Grace was embosomed, and Lorraine still lingers in a foreign land. He was coming, but is detained by a slight cold. He has been better, so much better, he forgot he had been an invalid, and he would soon be well again. Thus Hope whispered and Love believed. In the meantime, some new members were added to the household.

Mr. Rolland was called by business into the interior of the State. One night, as he stopped for rest at an inn in a flourishing village, he heard a female voice singing in the next apartment. It was very sweet, and as the notes reached, they died away on the ear, old remembrances stirred within him. "Where have I heard that voice before?" thought he. "Ah! it must be Miss Wilson's."

Now, though he had been very angry with Miss Wilson for deserting Grace, his conscience had often smitten him for having tempted her to deception. It was he who had proposed to her to assume the honors of heiress-ship, and allure the two rejected lovers into the toils of Grace. It was he who had thrown her into temptation, and he had frequently plastered her to himself, with many twinges of self-reproach, as suffering the usual consequences of such folly—desertion, poverty, and a broken heart. Her voice thrilled pleasantly through his heart. It was not exactly a happy strain, neither was it that which issues from a breaking heart. Rising, he walked softly towards the door, which was ajar, and paused into the apartment adjoining his own. He felt ashamed of himself while he did so; for, had he followed his first, straight-forward impulse, he would have bolted at once in the room. But though impulse pushed him forward, delicacy, respect for women, which was like a silver thread through the coarser web of his character, held him back. A lady, dressed in the plainest robe of black silk, sat in a low chair, crooning an infant in her arms. It was the lullaby over her child that she had stolen softly through the crevice of the door, and fallen upon his ear. At first he scarcely recognized in the colorless face bending over the child, the blooming countenance of Miss Wilson. There was something so strange, so inconsistent to him in seeing her in the tender attitude of maternity, he could hardly believe the evidence of his senses. There was something, too, in the song, whose soft arms seem formed to be the cradle of infancy, whose bosom the pillow of innocence, who rewind one of the sweet, virgin mother.... His own Grace for instance. Child-like as she was, it would have seemed far more natural for her to sing to her young heart her own, slumbering babe, than her former instructress. As soon as Mr. Rolland entered her timidity began to dawn in his mind, he gave a gentle tap at the door, and walked in, before she could rise from her couch.

"Don't let me disturb you, I beg of you," said he, in, with manifest embarrassment, she attempted to rise. "I am very glad to see you again, Miss—Mrs.—I forget your name. I beg your pardon—a fine infant; your own, I suppose—a boy or a girl?"

Mr. Rolland felt so awkward at his unexpected intrusion upon a lady's retirement, that he could upon the child as a subject of conversation, with great confidence. When told that it was a girl, and that its name was Gracie, the chord that vibrated to the sweetest music of his heart was touched. He took the child very gently in his arms, (he was very fond of children) and walking backwards and forwards, waved it to and fro, with a fluttering motion, as if it had been a branch of peacock feathers. Mrs. Ormond lifted her pale face, with a softer smile than he had ever seen illumine it. She inquired after Grace, and when told she was betrothed to Lorraine, she said she was glad, for she knew him to be worthy of her love. He had every qualification but health, and she hoped he would find that in a sunnier land. There was a pause. Again Mr. Rolland fastened the long down in the air, and another smile fitted over the mother's face.

"Where is Mr.—Mr.—"

"Mr. Ormond?"

"Yes, Mr. Ormond—your husband."

"He is gone abroad this evening; but I expect he will soon return."

"He is well, I hope?"

"Very well."

There was another pause; but Mr. Rolland was not a man to make many circumvolutions when he had a direct object before him.

"Mrs. Ormond," said he, depositing, with great care, the baby in her arms, "I'll try to remember your name. I'm a blunt man, as you well know; I make no allusion to the past—for it was my fault as much as your own, perhaps more. I want you to treat me as an old friend. Can I do anything for you? Can I do anything for your husband?"

"Thank you," she replied, and there was feeling in her tone. "This kindness is unexpected; but I do not think we have occasion to tax it."

"Do not think me inquisitive; but has Mr. Ormond a fortune?"

"He has none."

"Has he a profession?"

"He has not."

"Then how the deuce are you supported?"

"I give lessons in music and drawing."

"And Mr. Ormond?"

She did not blush, for her complexion was not a mutable one, but she looked vexed and disconcerted.

"There are some subjects which the oldest and most privileged friend cannot approach. If I am satisfied with my lot, no one has a right to intrude."

"To be sure not; but what in the name of wonder do you do with that baby when you are attending to your lessons? You have a nurse, of course?"

"When it is necessary."

She spoke this in a cold, haughty tone, as if to repel further interrogations. But Mr. Rolland had a plan in his head, and would persevere.

"Mrs. Ormond," said he, "you must not be offended with me. I want you and your husband both to go home with me. Grace—God bless her sweet little heart!—will be married soon, and will be taken up with her own little concerns; and the negroes will want some one to look after them. I wanted Lorraine to come to Chesnut Grove, and never take any thing from them; but he has a grand old homestead of his own, and nothing must do but he must plant my blossom there. I should like to indulge myself a little more than I have done, and Mr. Ormond can assist me in looking after the plantation, and overseeing the overseers. The baby can roll about under the chesnut trees, till it is fat as a guelia and round as a barr. Come—it will seem like old times to have you back again."

Mrs. Ormond, who had been struggling in secret with an adverse and self-imposed destiny, and whom heart a strong, though misplaced attachment, and the added claims of maternity, had chastened and softened, turned aside her head and wept. The husband, whose fascinating exterior had won her heart, was vain, weak, idle and self-indulgent, but he was not seldomed to the vices which are the usual accompaniments of these qualities. He was shockingly disappointed, and as angry as he was capable of being, when he discovered that the heiress whom he had stolen away to retrieve his ruined fortunes, was as poor as himself, but, with the pliability of indolence, he soon yielded to what was inevitable, and she, conscious that he had been allured by her reputed wealth, and that she had sanctioned the deception while aware of his poverty, bravely set herself to the task before her. With all the energy of her character, she resumed her former profession, and supported herself and her handsome husband by her talents and accomplishments. She soon acquired the commanding influence a strong mind exercise over a weak one, and whatever aching void her mind and heart might feel, the world never knew it. Such kindness and generosity, where she expected and knew she merited reproach touched her sensibilities and awakened her gratitude.

"She would love to see dear Grace once more," she said, "and, if Mr. Ormond would consent—"

The door swung back at this moment, and a man of such a princely and commanding appearance entered, that Mr. Rolland looked up to him with involuntary respect and admiration.—The feeling, however, soon passed away, when he remembered that this man of such noble presence revelled in the luxury of idleness, and allowed his wife to toil for his support, as well as her own. Still, for the sake of that pale wife, he was determined to tolerate him, and he renewed to him the invitation he had just pressed on Mrs. Ormond. It was received with many courteous smiles and graceful bows, and the result was, that a short time now them the hospitably received and cherished guests of Mr. Rolland and Grace.

The stranger who saw Mr. Ormond mounted on a magnificent black horse, with a long, sweeping tail, riding about the plantation, while Mr. Rolland, in his broad-brimmed hat, and plain suit, jogged by his side, would be likely to suppose the first an Eastern Prince, accompanied by one of his humble attendants.

CHAPTER V.

"He comes not. I have watched the moon go down,
And yet he comes not."

Thus sighed Grace to herself, as night after night she watched the silver glory of the moon, as the light that was lighting the beloved wanderer on his homeward way. "A slight cold!" what worlds of apprehension were compressed in that little phrase! The tone of his letters, too, was changed. It was no longer the full, exalted one of hope—it was on the minor key of tenderness and sadness. It no longer expatiated in the joys of an earthly union, but rather dwelt on the happiness of a celestial wedlock. Though all these was a yearning desire for home and native land, that last, passionate longing of the drooping pilgrim's heart.

Mr. Rolland tried to cheer up Grace, though he had many misgivings of his own. Lorraine always was too much given to despondency. He was home-sick, love-sick. He would be well as soon as he breathed the pure air of Chesnut Grove, and basked again on the sweet face of his betrothed one. Grace tried to smile on her deluding friend opposed to believe all, and hope all, but there was a leaden weight at the bottom of her heart pressing it lower and lower, and making it feel colder and colder. She prayed now but to see him once again, to hear once more that voice which was sweeter to her ear than the songs of the cherubim, to go hand in hand with him through the shadows of the valley of Death, and watch that on he looked the shining coast on which had reached the borders of the promised land.

He did come—at last. He was taken from the carriage and supported into the house. The cheery crutch was no longer equal to sustaining his fainting strength. Alabaster was hardly whiter or more transparent than his cheek, and then his eyes, of such inspiriting brightness, with such prayerful earnestness in their solemn depths!

"God be praised!" said he, that sweetest of human voices had lost nothing of its touching tones. Like fathos of more in the day of the sun, it seemed as it fell and sank into the soul. "God be praised," he cried. "Praised for this hour of unutterable bliss."

He was reclining on a sofa. Grace sat on a low seat by his side, her right arm around him, her head with all its wealth of beautiful, but now disordered ringlets, bent down upon the pillow that supported his head.

"Grace, my beloved, I have returned but to die."

"I know it. I feel it. I have long felt that it would be so."

"Forgive me for the blight I have cast over your youth. Forgive my selfishness, and be once more as though I had never been—oh! I have sinned. Father in Heaven—I have sinned against her and Thee, and I am not worthy of the happiness of this hour."

"Speak not so, Lorraine," cried she, raising her face and fixing her eyes steadfastly on his. "You have given me all of life that is worth possessing. You found my mind a chaos—without form or void. Like the Divine Spirit, you divided the light from the darkness, and the darkness rolled away. You taught me to think. You taught me to love. Oh! Lorraine," continued she, in an excited tone, borne up by the strength of her love and sorrow, "I would not exchange the bliss of loving as I love for all the world can offer besides. So many, many live a long, long life without ever having their hearts awakened—or when it is too late, too late they meet some being whom they could worship and adore as I do them, and they dare not do it, and they die without knowing what a heaven it is to have all the boundless capacities of the heart filled even to overflowing. Oh! have I not been blest? I, a poor, simple little girl, unworthy of the smallest portion of your affection, to be the chosen bride of your heart and aunt, to be yours in death, yours in eternity."

A bright, feverish spot burned upon her cheek. Her eyes had a darkened hue. She was like one under the influence of opium, supported by unnatural excitement.

"You are worthy of the passion of an angel," exclaimed Lorraine, "and will soon be the object of an angel's love and guardian care. I will come and minister unto thee, for angels do minister to suffering humanity. But there is one thing I would ask before I die. It may be selfish, it may be wrong, and if so I pray that I may be denied. When I am gone, the thought that you bore my name, even for a short time, would be inexpressibly dear to me. Mine in heart, as you are, to be mine in name would bind still closer that union which only consummated on earth will be consummated in Heaven."

Grace welcomed the proposition with rapture. In the excited state of her feelings she believed that she, too, would die, and to be his bride in death would sanctify her to a place side by side with him in the kingdom of Heaven.

Mr. Rolland was a warm-hearted, generous man, but he was not without his worldly feelings, and he knew that Lorraine had large possessions which Grace would inherit were she his wife even for one hour. He had some vague superstitious fears about seeing her nuptial blue exhumated at such an awful moment, but even if he had obtained the dispensation of the Holy Father, would have vanished before the earnest will of Grace to be the wife of the dying Lorraine. She could have exclaimed—

I would rather bear that dear and honored name
For one short hour, than live a thousand years
Of joy, if such could be, divided from thee.

The next day a minister was summoned to bless the marriage rites with the fast gathering solemnities of death. Grace, white as marble and almost as cold, knelt by the couch on which Lorraine reclined, and clasped his feeble hand in hers. Mr. Rolland wept like a child. The tender-hearted negroes, who were arranged in a semi-circle on each side of the minister, wept and sobbed behind their aprons. The minister, a venerable, white-locked man, paused to wipe the tears from his aged eyes. Mrs. Ormond covered her face with her handkerchief—every one wept but the devoted pair. With hand clasped in hand, eyes looking into the depths of each others' souls, they received the nuptial benediction.

The unconquerable desire to return and die in the presence, in the arms of her he loved, had borne up Lorraine's failing strength, and perhaps its consolation; a great deal of heroism in the effort still strives after cheerfulness and awaits the smile, which though it will at first fit from the faded lips, will at last settle and shed brightness and beauty there.

Ah! if Grace wanted to be a bride, the Bells of the Springs, how easily she could have been one now! What enthusiastic admiration followed the young, dark, beautiful widow wherever she moved! Still dressed in the widow's sable weeds, with her beautiful hair parted simply on her brow and gathered up behind, though the sombreness and shadows still spotted in its waves, which could remain after the singlets were banished, and an expression of heavenly sweetness breathing on her youthful features, Grace was far lovelier than when she first met the eyes of Lorraine.

She loved to walk with Angelica through the walks he loved—to sit down on the same rustic seats and see the bubbling waters sparkle as she was wont to do.

"You will marry again, dear Grace," said Angelica one day, after a conversation of unreserved confidence. "You were not formed for a life of loneliness—love is your native element, and you cannot live happily in a colder atmosphere."

"One who has loved such a man as Lorraine, and been blessed by his love, can be happier in the presence, in the arms of her he loved, but borne up Lorraine's failing strength, and perhaps its consolation; a great deal of heroism in the effort still strives after cheerfulness and awaits the smile, which though it will at first fit from the faded lips, will at last settle and shed brightness and beauty there.

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Our Picture Gallery.

OUTLET OF NIAGARA RIVER.

Above is a view of the Outlet of Niagara River, taken from the New York side, and looking towards Lake Ontario, whose deep blue waters are seen in the distance. The fortification on the right hand of the picture is Fort Niagara, and that on the left side is Fort Mississagua on the opposite Canada shore. Fort Niagara is one of the most interesting fortifications, historically considered, in the New World. It has been at different times in the possession of the French and the English, whose flags have floated above its ramparts, and now the stars and stripes wave proudly over its battlements. Fort Niagara was originally founded by M. de La Salle in 1679, a French soldier who obtained permission of the Indians to erect a log house, and by a stratagem succeeded in converting it into a fortification while they were absent on a hunting excursion to which he had lured them. A considerable part of the present fort was constructed by the French in 1726, and the massiveness and strength of the structure show the importance which was attached to the fortification by its original founders. Sir William Johnson, the English commander, obtained possession of Fort Niagara in 1759, built the magazine, and greatly improved and strengthened it in other respects. During our revolutionary war it was the scene of many cruel excesses of savage warfare; the British and Indians have joined hands historically considered, in the New World. It has been at different times in the possession of the French and the English, whose flags have floated above its ramparts, and now the stars and stripes wave proudly over its battlements. Fort Niagara was originally founded by M. de La Salle in 1679, a French soldier who obtained permission of the Indians to erect a log house, and by a stratagem succeeded in converting it into a fortification while they were absent on a hunting excursion to which he had lured them. A considerable part of the present fort was constructed by the French in 1726, and the massiveness and strength of the structure show the importance which was attached to the fortification by its original founders. Sir William Johnson, the English commander, obtained possession of Fort Niagara in 1759, built the magazine, and greatly improved and strengthened it in other respects. During our revolutionary war it was the scene of many cruel excesses of savage warfare; the British and Indians have joined hands historically considered, in the New World. It has been at different times in the possession of the French and the English, whose flags have floated above its ramparts, and now the stars and stripes wave proudly over its battlements. Fort Niagara was originally founded by M. de La Salle in 1679, a French soldier who obtained permission of the Indians to erect a log house, and by a stratagem succeeded in converting it into a fortification while they were absent on a hunting excursion to which he had lured them. A considerable part of the present fort was constructed by the French in 1726, and the massiveness and strength of the structure show the importance which was attached to the fortification by its original founders. Sir William Johnson, the English commander, obtained possession of Fort Niagara in 1759, built the magazine, and greatly improved and strengthened it in other respects. During our revolutionary war it was the scene of many cruel excesses of savage warfare; the British and Indians have joined hands historically considered, in the New World. It has been at different times in the possession of the French and the English, whose flags have floated above its ramparts, and now the stars and stripes wave proudly over its battlements. Fort Niagara was originally founded by M. de La Salle in 1679, a French soldier who obtained permission of the Indians to erect a log house, and by a stratagem succeeded in converting it into a fortification while they were absent on a hunting excursion to which he had lured them. A considerable part of the present fort was constructed by the French in 1726, and the massiveness and strength of the structure show the importance which was attached to the fortification by its original founders. Sir William Johnson, the English commander, obtained possession of Fort Niagara in 1759, built the magazine, and greatly improved and strengthened it in other respects. During our revolutionary war it was the scene of many cruel excesses of savage warfare; the British and Indians have joined hands

Pictures of Life.

THE MECHANIC'S HOME.

One evening, in the early part of the Winter, the door-bell rang with energy, and the servant announced a man who wished to see me. "A man!" in one thing, with a servant, a "gentleman," another, a "person" something different from either. The man stood in the hall, but I wondered why he had not been called a gentleman. I was puzzled where to place him myself. His dress was very neat, but plain, and rather coarse. His hands, that badge of refinement, was white, in perfect order, and almost elegant. Every thing about him seemed substantial; but nothing gave a clue to his position in life. In all outward seeming, he was simply a man. When he spoke to me, his address was simple, clear, direct, and with a certain air of self-reliance, the farthest possible from a vulgar bluster.

"Doctor," he said, "I wish you would go and see my child. We fear he is threatened with croup."

This case, which he described as we went along, was a pretty clear one, and I hurried my walk still more, and in a few moments we were at the door. We went up, up, up, to the fourth story. The last flight of stairs was carpeted, and a small lamp at the top lighted us up. An excellent and very durable kind of mat lay at the door. You will see, in time, why I give these little particulars.

I entered the opened door, and was welcomed by a rather pretty and remarkable tidy woman, who could have been nobody in the world but the wife of the man who had commenced me.

"I am glad you have come so soon," she said, in a soft, pure accent. "Little William seems so distressed that he can hardly breathe;" and the mother's tone, as we passed through a narrow passage where he lay, I heard the unmistakable croupy sound, that justly carries such terror to the parent's heart.

"Is it the croup, Doctor?" asked the father, with a voice of emotion, as I bent over the child, a fine boy, three years of age.

"It is certainly the croup," I as'd, "and a pretty violent attack. How long is it since you thought him sick?"

"Only since an hour," was the calm reply. It was made calm by a firm self-control. I looked at the mother. She was very pale, but did not rust herself to speak.

"Then there is probably but little danger," I said; "but we have something to do. Have you the water here?"

The husband went to what seemed a closet, opened two doors, and disclosed a neat pine bathing-tub, supplied with the Croton. This was beyond my hopes; but I had no time to wonder. The little fellow was in a high fever, and laboring for every breath. Taking him from his little crib, where he lay upon a nice hair mattress, fit for a Prince to sleep on, I took off his clean night-clothes, stood him in the bath-tub, and made his father pour full upon his neck and chest three pails of cold water, while I rubbed them briskly with my hand. He was then wiped dry, and rubbed until his whole body was glowing like a flame. Then I swung a large towel out of cold water and put it round his throat, and then wrapped him up in blankets. The brave little fellow had borne it all without a complaint, as if he understood that under his father's eye no harm could come to him. In fifteen minutes after he was wrapped in the blankets he was in a profuse perspiration, in a sound slumber, and breathing freely. The danger was over—so rapid is this terrible disease, so easily cured. Happiness had shed a serene light upon the countenance of the father, and thrown over the mother's face a glow of beauty. I looked upon them, and was more than ever puzzled where to place them. There were no marks of high birth or superior breeding—not a shadow of decayed gentility about them. It was rather the reverse, as if they were working up from a low rank of life to a higher.

I looked around the room. It was the bedroom. Every thing in it was perfectly neat and orderly. The bed, like the crib, was excellent, but not costly. The white counterpane did not cost more than ten shillings—yet how beautiful it looked! The white window curtains were shilling muslin; but their folds hung as richly as if they were damask—and how very appropriate they seemed! The bath, with its snug folding doors, I knew, had not cost, plumber's bill and all, more than ten dollars. The toilet table, of an elegant form, and completely covered, I had no doubt, was of pine, and cost half-a-dollar.—The pictures on the wall were beautifully-tinted lithographs—better, far better, than oil paintings I have seen in the houses of Millionaires; yet they can be bought at Gemgill's, or Williams', or Stevens', for three to five shillings, and a dollar apiece had framed them. The floor had a carpet that matched everything, with its small, neat figure, and a light chamber color. It was a jewel of a room, in as perfect keeping, in all its parts, as if an artist had designed it.

Leaving the little boy to his untroubled sleep, and giving directions for a bath on his waking, we went into the other room, which was differently, but just as neatly arranged. It might have answered for a parlor, (only it had a cooking stove,) for an artist's study, or a dining-room. It was hung with pictures—heads, historical pieces, and landscapes; all such as a man of taste could select and buy cheap; but which, like good books, are invaluable. And speaking of books, there was a hanging library on one side of the chimney, which a single glance assured me contained the very choicest treasures of the English tongue.

The man went to a bureau, opened a drawer, and took out some money.

"What is your fee, Doctor?" he asked, holding the bills as as to select one to pay me.

Now, I had made up my mind, before I had got half-way up the stairs, that I might have to wait for my pay—perhaps never get it; but all this had changed. I could not, as I often do, inquire into the circumstances of the case, and graduate my price accordingly. There he stood, ready to pay me, with manly enough; yet it was evident that he was a working man, and far from wealthy. I had nothing left but to name the lowest fee.

"One dollar does not seem enough," said he. "You have saved my child's life, and have been at more trouble than to merely write a prescription."

"Do you work for your living?" I asked, helping to solve the mystery.

He smiled and held out his hand, which showed the unquestionable marks of honest toil.

"You are a mechanic?" I said, willing to know more of him.

"Take that," he said, placing a two dollar note in my hand, with a not-to-be-refused air, "and I will gratify your curiosity; for there is no use in pretending that you are not a little curious."

There was a hearty, respectful freedom about this that was irresistible. I put the note in my pocket, and the man going to a door, opened it into a closet of modern size, and displayed the bench and tools of a shoemaker.

"You must be an extraordinary workman," said I, looking around the room, which seemed almost luxurious; but when I looked at each item I found that it cost very little.

"No, nothing extra; I barely manage to earn a little over a dollar a day. Mary helps me sometimes. With the business I do, and our boy to look after, she earns enough to make our wages average eight dollars a week. We began with nothing—we live as you see."

All this comfort, this respectability, this almost luxury, for eight dollars a week! I expressed my surprise. "I should be very sorry if we spent so much," said he. "We have not only managed to live on that, but we have something laid up in the savings's bank."

"Will you leave the gentleman," said I, "just to complete to me how you do it?"

"With pleasure," he replied; "for you may persuade others, no better off than I am, to make the best of their situation."

"My name," he said, "is William Gaine.—My father died when I was young, and I was turned out on opportunities to a shoemaker, with the usual providence of schooling. I did as well as boys do generally at school, and as I was very fond of reading, I made the most of my spare time and the advantages of the Apprentices' Library. Probably the books that helped me most were the sensible writings of William Cobbett.—Following his example, I determined to give myself a useful education, and I have in some degree succeeded. But a man's education is a life-long process; and the more I learn, the more I see before me.

"I was hardly out of my time when I fell in love with my Mary there, whom some people think very pretty, but whom I know to be very good."

Mary looked up with such a bright, loving smile, as to fully justify some people in their notion.

"When I had been one year a journeyman, and laid up a few dollars (for I had a strong motive to be saving,) we were married. I boarded at her father's, and she boxed above for the shop where I worked. We lived a few weeks at home; but it was not our home—the home we wanted—so we determined to set up housekeeping. It was rather a small set up, but we made it answer. I spent a week in home hunting.—Seems once too dear, seems too shabby. At last I found this place. It was new and clean, high and airy, and I thought it would do. I got it for fifty dollars a year—and though the rents all round advanced, our landlord is satisfied with that, or takes it in preference to risking a worse tenant. The place was naked enough, and we had little to put in it save ourselves; but we went cheerfully to work, carried all we could, sent all we could,—and you see the result."

"I see; but I don't know if I do understand it," said I, willing to hear him explain the economics of this modest and beautiful home.

"Well it is simple enough. When Mary and I moved ourselves here and took possession, with a table, two chairs, a cooking-stove, a saucepan or two, and a cot-bed with a straw mattress, the first thing we did was to hold a council of war. 'Now, Mary, my love,' said I, 'here we are. We have next to nothing, and we have every thing to get, and nobody but ourselves to help ourselves.'

"We found that we could earn on an average, eight dollars a week. We determined to live as simply as possible, save all we could, and make us a home. Our rent was one dollar a week—our fuel, light, water-rent, and some little sundries, a dollar more. We have allowed the same amount for our clothing, and by buying the best things, and keeping them carefully, we found well enough for that. Even my wife is satisfied with her wardrobe, and finds that rare silk at six shillings a yard is cheaper, in the long run, than calico at one shilling. That makes three dollars a week, and we had still our living to pay for.—That cost us, with three to our family, just one dollar a week more."

"One dollar spleen?"

"No—one dollar for all. You seem surprised; but we have reckoned it over and over. It cost more at first, but now we have learned to live both better and cheaper—so that we have a clear surplus of four dollars a week, after paying all expenses of rent, fire, light, water, clothing and food. I do not count our luxuries, such as an evening at the theater, at a concert, or a little party to our friends when we give a party."

I knew a smile came over my face, for he continued:

"Yes, give a party; and we have some pleasant ones, I assure you. Sometimes we have a dozen guests, which is quite enough for comfort, and our treat of chocolate, cakes, lemonade, &c., costs as much as two dollars; but this is not very often. Out of our surplus, which amounts, you see, to two hundred dollars a year, we have bought all you see, and have money in the bank."

"I see it all," said I, "all but the living. Many a mechanic spends more than that for cigars, to say nothing of liquor. Pray tell me precisely how you live."

"With pleasure. First of all, then, I smoke no cigars and chew no tobacco, and Mary takes no snuff."

Here the pleasant smile came in, but there was no interruption; for Mary seemed to think her husband knew what he was about, and could talk very well without her aid.

"I have not drunk a glass of liquor since the day I was married, except a glass of wine about four times a year, on Christmas, New Year's, Fourth of July, and William's birth-day. The last is our especial holiday. I have read enough physiology to make up my mind that tea and coffee contained no nutriment, and were poisons besides; and I tried a vegetable diet long enough to like it better than a mixed one, and I find that it agrees with me better; and as we have rent and superintendent together, of course Mary thinks as I do."

"But what do you eat and drink?" I asked, curious to see how far this self-taught philosopher had progressed in the laws of health.

"Come this way, and I will show you," he said; taking a light and leading the way into a capacious store-room. "Here, first of all, is a mill, which cost me twelve shillings. It grinds all my grain; gives me the freshest and most wholesome meal, and saves bills and the profits. This is a barrel of wheat. I buy the best, and am sure that it is clean and good. It costs less than three cents a pound; and a pound of wheat a day, you know, is food enough for any man.—We make it into bread, mush, pies, and cakes. Here is a barrel of potatoes. This is hominy. Here are some beans, a box of tapioca, some rice. Here is a barrel of apples, the best I can find in Faneuil Market. Here is a box of sugar, and there is our butter-jar. We take a quart of country milk a day; I buy the rest down here, by the box or barrel, where I can get the best and cheapest. Making wheat—eaten as mush or bread, and all made coarse, without bolting, and potatoes, or hominy, or rice, the staple, you can easily see that a dollar a week for provisions is not only ample, but allows of a healthy, and even luxurious variety. For the rest, we eat greens, vegetables, fruit and berries in their season. In the Summer we have strawberries and peaches as soon as they are ripe and good. Mary will get up a dinner from those materials at a cost of a shilling, better than the whole bill-of-fare at the Astor."

I was satisfied. Here was comfort, intelligence, taste, and modest luxury, all enjoyed by a humble mechanic, who knew how to live at the cost I have mentioned. How much unhappiness might be saved—how much genuine happiness be enjoyed—how much evil and suffering might be prevented, if all the working men in New York were as William Carter.

I never shook a man or woman by the hand with more hearty respect than when I said, "good-night" to this happy couple, who, in this expensive city, are living in luxury and growing rich on eight dollars a week, and making the hearth of a shoemaker a chair of practical philosophy.—*Condensed from the N. York Sunday Times.*

☞ A Sensible Reply.—During the examination of a witness, as to the locality of the stairs in a house, the counsel asked him:—"Which way did the stairs run?" The witness, who, by-the-by, is a noted wag, replied, "That one way they run up stairs, but that the other way they run down stairs." The learned counsel wrinkled both eyes, and then took a look at the ceiling.—*Pacific Star.*

Selected Articles.

THE CHILD ANGEL.

"She did but float a little way,
Adown the stream of time,
With dreamy eyes watching the ripples play,
Listening their fairy chime;
Her shadow and
Never fell the gale;
She did but float a little way,
And passing to the shore,
While yet 'twas early day,
Went calmly on her way.
To dwell with us no more.
No parting did she feel,
No grieving on her vessel's keel;
A strip of silver sand
Mingled the waters with the land.
Where she was seen no more,
Oh, shore word, sweetness."

How few whose names are written on it, wonder, have any idea or understanding of the solemn responsibilities resting upon them in these relations. A few years of tastefully outshone—the finish given at a fashionable boarding school, a short wooing, a gay bridal, a gayer honeymoon, and the young creature sets herself at last by her own hearth stone, and wonders if life is all a holiday.

Such a one comes up now to my recollection. The life of the round circle to which she moved, always carrying sunshine wherever she went, merry-hearted as a bird, thoughtless of the morrow; light, air, motion, all avenues of the keenest enjoyment, roving like the bee from flower to flower, extracting only honey; sensitive, ardent, inquisitive, warm hearted—but "remembering not her Creator"—lacking the "one thing needful." I loved her, so did all who knew her, for the world had not yet spoiled her fresh and generous nature; but with all that wealth of feeling and without the guiding-star of religion! I could only say, "May God keep her!"

Her husband was like herself, fond of the gay world, but fully able to appreciate the strong deep love she bore him.

A babe was given her. With a flood of joyful tears she welcomed it. At once she became the self-sacrificing, patient, enduring mother. You could not have charmed her away from that baby's cradle, or chamber; you never so wisely." Her whole heart, purse, health, were all for those; her child' joy was to watch them day footsteps to caress that fragile form. The gay, ringing laugh was heard less frequently—a sweet, calm seriousness marked her whole demeanor. She would sit for hours gazing on its cheeks bare with undressed eyes. Tears passed on. The child grew up a delicate, fragile thing, with bright, large, mournful eyes. Through which the soul seemed ever sparkling; moved to tears by a strain of sweet melody, or the gorgeous beauty of the sunset cloud—saving naught for the sports of childhood, but like the child Saviour "hearing and answering questions."

The love and devotion of Alice for her mother almost amounted to idolatry. At night her fairy head was contented from the little bed to rest in that of her mother. By day she was ever at her mother's side, with her book, or work, or her infant sports. Her mother was fond of them, fostered the child's eyes in death, I heard her pallid lips say—"Not my will, but Thine be done."

Since then the grave has closed over the husband of her youth—poverty, suffering and trial, have marked her pathway, and now the one book book and see the kindness of her Heavenly Father in them early chastening the little shrinking tomb from the storm and the tempest.

"Full short her journey was; no dust
Of earth unto her sandals clave;
The weary weight, the aged crust,
She bore not to the grave;
She seemed a cherub who had lost her way
And wandered hither; so her stay
With us was short, and 'twas most meet
That she should be no deliver in earth's cloud
Nor need to pause and cleanse her feet,
To stand before her God."

Olive Branch.

Early Risers.—A few evenings since, two young gentlemen went to the residence of two young ladies, on Fifth Street, to make a social call. The hour was very oppressive; they adjourned from the parlor to the door steps, where they seated themselves. An hour was spent in social chat, when the young ladies were called to attend to some duties in the house. On their return, after some minutes absence, they found both the young gallants stretched on the door-steps, fast asleep. The girls resolved not to disturb their slumbers, but apprised of the lights and retired for the night. Their house slept on till they were awakened by the watchmen, who demanded to know what they were doing in that situation? They were astonished on finding the doors closed upon them, and nobody stirring in the house; and on ascertaining that it was one o'clock in the morning, they were dumb-founded. Repairing instanter to the watchmen, they were allowed to breathe about their business, which they did, feeling as flat as diluted dish-water.—*Cincinnati Nonpareil.*

British Railroads.—The spirit of accommodation is not strikingly evinced on British railroads. The train halts at a place to which you are a stranger, and you perhaps hear the name called out for the benefit of the passengers who are to stop there; but whether the halt is for half a minute, five minutes or ten, you must find out as you can. The French railroads are better in this respect, and the American cannot be worse, though the fault is not unknown there. A penny programme for each train, to be sold at the chief stations on each important route, the thing not merely at what place but exactly how long each halt of that particular train would be made, is one of the yet unsatisfied wants of railroad travellers. Our "Path-finders" and "Railway Guides" undertake to tell us much that plain people are confused and often misled by them, and are unable to point out the little information they actually need from the wilderness of figures and facts set before them. Let us have Guides so simple that no guide is needed to explain them.—*Horace Greeley.*

The Traveller.

LIFE ON THE WING.

[illegible]

We were [illegible] the Falls of the River [illegible] Buffalo, [illegible] the "Great Western" [illegible] to the Falls, [illegible] stood, on starboard, and gained the centre board by a footpath. There stands a low wooden building labelled, "Sydney and Custombus." We were now playing the dutch customs on Niagara, and all the usual shaking accompaniment of dollars, purses, valuables, &c., &c., proceed us. It is better to spare your opinions, however,—Custombus yourself over a hundred dollars' worth of land, and smile calmly on! Oh, for a phase of Lord Brougham's power! Oh, for a phase of Lord Brougham's power! Oh, for a phase of Lord Brougham's power

SATURDAY EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA:
SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1851.

SATURDAY EVENING POST
STEAM-POWER PRESS AND JOB PRINTING OFFICE,
No. 66 Chesnut Street, Philadelphia,
Where Books, Pamphlets, Blank Forms, Way-Bills, Circulars, Bill Heads, Cards, Labels, &c., &c., will be printed with dispatch, in the neatest manner, and on the most reasonable terms.
MAGEE & PETERSON, Proprietors.

From Cuba.

THE LOPEZ EXPEDITION.

EXECUTION OF FIFTY AMERICANS.

THE FALCON BOARDED.

Since our last, the following important news has been received from Havana, brought by the steamship Crescent. The dates are to Aug. 17th. We submit the following accounts from the New York Herald, Tribune, &c. We are indebted to the Purser of the Crescent for the following fearful narrative:

The steamer Habanero, while grinding off a bar, heard cannon firing from Havana, brought by the steamship Crescent. The dates are to Aug. 17th. We submit the following accounts from the New York Herald, Tribune, &c. We are indebted to the Purser of the Crescent for the following fearful narrative:

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Havana, August 16—10, A. M.

Intelligence received here last night that a party of 50 men had landed from the steamer Pampero, and were marching on the city. The news was made to believe that it was a party of Spaniards who had been sent out by General Lemery, to intercept the invaders, but it would be known before long. The result was, that the force were all taken prisoners, and were brought into the city last night. Their arms were taken from them, and they were marched to the Cabanas fortress, where they were confined. Their number was 50, but it is said that 7 escaped.

Yesterday, the government received the news of the attack, and the steamer was ordered to the Playa, with a number of troops, and with them came Gen. Lopez and a number of officers. After the Falcon had been moved to the Morro, which took place at 4, A. M., on the 13th inst., Lopez was called on board the steamer, and I found it to be true, that the steamer had sailed from the Moro Castle, on the evening of the 12th, was the name on which entered Gen. Lopez and his friends to their country. Such a daring act of audacity, bordering as it were the height of madness, was never before performed by any one man, and I could not help admiring the courage of the man, although I knew that his attempt would be a failure. Lopez had left with a determination of this kind, and I found on board the steamer a number of officers, who had left with him, and who had come

Selected Poetry.

THE MOTHER'S HEART.

BY THE HON. MRS. NORTON.

When first their eyelids open, dark and dark,
My blindness, that hope, and dismay embrace;
My heart interrogated them with a joy beyond
All that it yet had felt of earthly pleasure;
Methought that my very spirit might be poured
Into the soul coming earthward I fell fair child.

Shrieked and fled, while the mother clasped the prize,
And could not marvel that it was not theirs, my child!
Not willing to be lent; still by my side
Resisting my wishes, while I wondering looked;
Her footing in the tomb; but pleased to abide
Through the dark years where I was only One.
Or by the sight of pain a closer union knit,
Which fled the cup held but the flowerish chalice.

Oh, hope! of such as these, our offspring made!
Death's dragon sleeps; like a tortoise fearless,
Who thought to rid all freedom from its burden—
And heeding wrestler on the thunder-conquered,
And, round the brink, the heart would dance to black,
And cling, like wreathing, shriek in the wind.

Then there, my mercy here, hold in thy glen,
Under the bough, or by the daylight dancing,
With thy sweet tongues, and thy quick love,
Didst come, as swallow on a bird's wing gleaming,
Full of a will and irrepressible mirth,
Like a young unknown to the childhood earth.

Those were the cheers! the darling hours of joy!
Which sweet flesh children's very lips in-
[illegible]

Those were the super spirit communed, whose
And the glad heart from whence all gave as
[illegible]
And many a wishful yes and smart reply
Looked in the laughter of thy dark blue eye.

And there was many an ear to win and there,
The cold and stern to joy and tenderness warming!
The evening smile; the frequent soft caress;
The constant vocal prayer, all words discussing!
Again my heart is sealed of those dreams,
But thought that love with these had reached its bound.

It taught that rapture; there, the joy and love;
Hallowed "The Heavens" by thy laughing
[illegible]
Seekers,
Became a thrilling spirit excited thy home!
And then didst lead to rule and every the others;
Mingling with every playful infant wile
A minute memory that made us smile.

And, oh! must like a regal child must there!
An eye of sunshine and emotional shimmering;
Fair cheeks—carnation's hue—and dauntless brow—

Fit for the World's strife, not for Pan's dreaming;
And proud the flashing of that dainty head,
And free bearing of thy consciousness tread.

Different from hers! Yet each succeeding shows,
I, that all other love had been domineering,
Fondness's shrined, reigned and the more;

Nor injured either, by this love's crowning,
Nor stole a fraction for the newer call—
But in the Mother's heart found room for all!

Selected Sketch.

A WORD ON PIANOFORTES.

FROM [illegible]'S ECONOMIC JOURNAL.

The pianoforte is the most popular musical instrument of the day. The facility with which a very respectable amount of skill in performing on it may be obtained, and the admirable adaptation for an accompaniment to the human voice, have contributed to render it a general favorite. It is to be regretted, however, that much ignorance prevails with regard to the construction of a piano, and that many are grossly cheated in the purchase, not so much from any intentional roguery, as from their total inability to form a correct judgment in the matter. Ignorance of a cheap nature comes from the same cause. It is not necessary to mention here that the [illegible] of the world occur in the manufactories of years under the best management, and even with the best instruments; but in careless hands this inevitable deterioration will be accomplished in fewer months than it would in years of prudent care. The best place, then, for the piano is in the parlor or drawing-room in centrally somewhere every from the current of air that runs constantly from the door to the window. In a recess or corner side of the fire-place, or against that wall opposite the window, is not a good place. Instruments should be tuned to the concert pitch, which is a pretty high one, as the general tendency of the strings is to relax. Number of tunes will depend upon the frequency of performance. Where there is a large way of business carried on, or where the instrument is much used, it should be tuned every month; but in private houses, where it is only occasionally played upon, once in three months will be sufficient. Those who have the means of keeping a piano constantly in tune, should not allow it to remain out of tune, or something is wanting in the comfort of the household. Under the head of pianoforte-tools, we placed almost all chandeliers, as well as the lamps-stands as to other large forms, [illegible] cabinets, and a host of others, have places in and—the property of a lady who has her money's worth in the article of furniture, who chandeliers made by midnight lamplights of the age of from £10 to £15, and still is a good, if not great, as the second-hand goods of the most ordinary description. Some of these articles [illegible] in a large way of business cannot be very high standing, and about the pretensions of respectable dealers—giving valuables of the first grade, the only advantage of which is the cost of its value. If not established, you may be cheated in a variety of ways, and the most [illegible] to rents or rent of that mother's need [illegible] purchase. From such facts as these, with which every one should be aware, the reader will perceive that his best protection against fraud and exploitation is to have recourse at once to the maker or his accredited agent for the purchase of a genuine instrument.

But regarding the piano solely outward, bought, and safely housed at home, the next thing is the question of its treatment; and here the great ignorance appears practically to prevail. Whatever may be said to the piano dictated to a thorough cleaning, and, if so, its proper position is the effect of continual rather than of design. The wood, and, unfortunately the most favorite polishes, is opposite the fire-place, and in the midst of the greatest draught between the door and windows. Every fresh current of air coming the cause of rent in the model, and through the vegetation and contraction consequent upon an ever-varying temperature, the strings must be loosened or tightened. Again, the leather and [illegible], by being alternately wet and dry, become hard in the course of time, even when not used at all. This is not the worst; through the shrinking that follows the hardening of the leather, a destructive friction ensues, which, in spite of the block-bed used to guard against it, must sooner or later wear away the [illegible] of the hammer, and of the [illegible], or [illegible] brass; pause to collect what he can smash out, and then on his return to that himself up in his [illegible], and make experiments upon his gathering,—to inquire into the natural history of each proceeding to its kind—point such as one cat to see, and I should have no difficulty in pronouncing him, without the aid of physiognomy, to be the better and happier enjoyer than his fellow, who does not pore over his habits, never dreaming that there can be any knowledge beyond [illegible]. Of such stuff as this were all our philosophical gentlemen, from Newton to Dory, and so from the nature of things, they must generally be. And no wonder. The spirit that is powerful enough to discern, or, and to take its own course, instead of undergoing the [illegible] in the attempt, if induced to make it.

It is greatly to be regretted that pianos are so yet far too expensive for general use among the humbler classes. With the present mode of manufacture there seems no immediate prospect of improvement in this particular. As yet every part of the mechanism, as well as the exterior fabric, is made by hand, and then put together by first-class, who work for high wages, and spend an immense amount of time, pretty much at their own discretion, in chipping, shaving, adjusting, and regulating, to apparently very little purpose—the major part of which tedious and expensive ceremony might be abolished, at least in the production of instruments for popular use by the adoption of a single uniform plan of construction, carried out with the precision which the use of machinery in the fabrication of the different parts would ensure. But the single power of machinery has never yet been brought to bear upon this department of manufacture; and the wonder is, seeing that large and princely fortunes are annually made through the great and increasing demand for these instruments, that such is the case. There seems no reason why a pianoforte should not be as cheap as a clock.—The mechanism of the one ought not to be more expensive than that of the other; and the adjustment and regulation of both are perhaps of about equal difficulty. The great cause of the difference in the cost of the two is doubtless that while the clock is made very much by the means of machinery, the piano is entirely the produce of manual labor.

Ownership of Children.—The curiosity of the child is the philosophy of the man, or at least, to abuse this sweeping generality, the one very frequently grows into the other. The former is a sort of balloon, a little thing, to be sure, but a critical one nevertheless, and pretty surely indicative to the heights, as well as the direction, to be taken by the more fully expanded mind.—Point out to me a boy or girl, or what would generally be called eccentric habits, fond of rambling about, a hunter of the wood-side and river-bank; prone to collect what he can search out, and then on his return to shut himself up in his [illegible], and make experiments upon his gatherings,—to inquire into the natural history of each according to its kind—point such an one out to me, and I should have no difficulty in pronouncing him, without the aid of physiognomy, to be the better and happier enjoyer than his fellow, who does not pore over his habits, never dreaming that there can be any knowledge beyond [illegible]. Of such stuff as this were all our philosophical gentlemen, from Newton to Davy, and so from the nature of things, they must generally be. And no wonder. The spirit that is powerful enough to discern, or, and to take its own course, instead of undergoing the [illegible] in the attempt, if induced to make it.

Harvey Over.—Two orators engage meeting on the road to Augusta, Georgia, the following dialogue took place between the drivers:

"What's cotton in Augusta?" says the one with a load.

"*Cotton*," says the other.

The inquirer, supposing himself not to be understood, repeats,

"What's cotton in Augusta?"

"It's *cotton*," says the other.

"I know that," says the first, "but what is it?"

"Why," says the other, "I tell you it is *cotton*! Cotton is cotton in Augusta, and every where else that ever I heard of."

"I know that as well as you," says the first. "But what does cotton bring in Augusta?"

"Why it brings nothing there, but every body brings cotton."

"Look here," says the first vaguous, with an oath, "you had better leave the State; for I'll be whipped if you don't know too much for Georgia."

Wit and Humor.

FROG CATCHING.

Any person who has passed by youth or manhood in the agricultural districts, must be familiar to the variety and extent of the music made by the croakers, that engross their attention in the spring season. Some suppose that it was performed by the male frogs, in imitation of the noted performers in the concerts; but for my own simple ears to such euphony is entirely beyond the bullfrog, as it resembles in certain parts, he will find their resistance more for desire of his ordinate.

Mr. George Bolton, formerly of Pittsburg, and well known there in that city, some thirty or forty years since, as a prominent joiner, was engaged in Dr. Bentley's in 1814, and during that year and the next I was in his employ as clerk in which capacity I obtained many amusing reasons, in which he usually bore a conspicuous part. He had his particular subjects of harmony and at the time to which I allude, his great hobby for that purpose was frogs.

Among our customers of that date, was a burly, dark-eyed, gossiping fellow, from the Western Reserve, named Orlott, who brought us in, three or four times a year, all the news of a busy neighboring,—gave us the latest scrape and dance and other sentiment in the line of mode. He had made his purchases, and was preparing a settlement for which, as a means of exchanging his business, and subject by requesting that he had nothing else to supply us with. On this last occasion quite, for it was like bringing fire from the flint, a single stroke sufficed.

"I Bless you! any frogs in your neighborhood? I would not mind taking a few thousands put up for hounds, if you could supply them."

"Frogs! Mr. Bolton, what do you want with frogs?"

"Why, sir, I have a correspondent down at Baton Rouge, who has left a standing order with me for one hundred, and I can't find any place where I can get it filled. I would make it worth any man's while to contract with me for the article."

"Well, now, Mr. Bolton, I vow to goodness, there's millions in our neighborhood—but you are quizzing me, I am sure."

"Upon my honor," replied Mr. Bolton, "I am perfectly serious. I will take ten or five hundred, or even less, and give fifty dollars a barrel to any gentleman who would contract with me."

Orlott's eyes sparkled at the proposal.

"Well, Mr. Bolton, if you say so, I will put you up ten barrels—perhaps your friend may want more—and I hope you will give me the preference, if so. But you are not having me, Mr. Bolton, I hope?"

"My dear sir," said Mr. Bolton, "rest assured that I have long been at a loss to get the order filled, and am perfectly serious. But observe, my dear sir, that the kind legs are all that are wanted. Can't forget that."

Mr. Wakendaw, his book-keeper—was situated on the spot to draw the memorandum in contract form, and Orlott, fidding it many carefully in his pocket-book, and doubtless calculating deeply on making a brilliant speculation out of us, as he seized the reins and sprang to the seat of his Yankee wagon, said,

"Don't forget, if your friend should want twenty barrels, to let me know in time."

Mr. Bolton heard nothing from Orlott for months, and by the time he made his re-appearance in Pittsburg, Bolton had some new subject on the carpet, and lost sight of the frogs. Not so with me. I anticipated something amusing, being well aware, as was Bolton, in making the contract, that by the time the frogs would be caught, the millions would shrink into hundreds. I was silent, however, until Orlott's purchases had been made, his produce credited, the account adjusted, and himself ready to start. I then ventured,

"One thing is forgotten. Do you recollect our contract, Mr. Bolton, for the Baton Rouge hounds, for frogs?"

"I do declare!" said Bolton, "I had almost forgot. What about it, Mr. Orlott? Are they ready?"

The contractor looked as if he could have crept through an auger hole. He began to whistle like a chicken-hawk preparing a whipping.

"I hope, Mr. Bolton, you will not be angry at that contract. I declare to goodness, I had forty boys out for six weeks, sir, day and night, and I never got more frogs than filled a barrel six inches deep, and had to give it up at last."

"My dear sir," said Bolton, "you have no idea of the disappointment. We never got a letter from those Frenchmen, that they do not remind us of the frogs. They say, 'the price is no object, only get the frogs.' Bolton, I told them you could send them a hundred barrels; and now, if you can't make out six fifty dollars, I will give you a hundred dollars a barrel; so don't think of giving up. Put on more boys, and give them better wages. Mr. Clot, calculate for our friend Orlott what he can afford to give a dozen, supposing he pays twenty dollars a barrel."

"It's of no use, Mr. Bolton," replied Orlott, with a most woeful expression of face, and a deep sigh, "I know it ain't. It takes a power of kind legs to fill a barrel. At first, the frogs must have disappeared, for they can't be found; and unless you have a mind to ruin my family"—bursting into tears—"you will let me off. If you do," said he, a thought suddenly striking him, "Mr. Bolton, I'll bring you as fine a cheese as ever came out of the Reserve."

"My dear sir," said Bolton, entirely overcome by the scene, "I wish to take advantage of no man. I see you have done your best, and my friends Meagher & Co., must do without the frogs. I will explain the circumstances to them, and I hope they will be satisfied. If not, I will bear the consequences myself. As to the cheese, never mind it. We'll have a glass of beer, to reconcile all things. Here, Dick," said he, calling his man-of-all-work, "go to Mr. Neal's, and get a gallon of beer—of Shinn's best."

The beer was brought, drank with great gusto, and Orlott, smiling through his tears at his lucky escape, drove off—doubtless vowing, internally, to be more careful with his next contract.

The moral of all this is, first, never sell any thing till you have first bought it, or know in a certainty that you can buy it to advantage. Secondly, never trust your ears any more than your eyes, implicitly, but determine quantities by actual count.—*Clerk's Adventures.*

A Cool Operator.—"Hello, there, captain!" said a Brother Jonathan, to the captain of a canal packet on the Erie Canal, "what do you charge for a passage?"

"Three cents per mile, and boarded," said the captain.

"Well, guess I'll take a passage, captain; and see how I'm kinder gin cent walking or flat."

Accordingly he got on board just as the steward was ringing the bell for dinner. Jonathan sat down and began to demolish the "fixins" to the utter consternation of the captain, until he had cleared the table of all that was eatable, when he got up and went on deck, picking his teeth very comfortably.

"How far is it, captain, from here to where I came on board?"

"Nearly one and a half miles," said the captain.

"Let's see," said Jonathan, "that would be just four and a half cents; but never mind, captain, I won't be small; here's five cents, which pays my fare to here. I guess I'll go ashore now; I'm kinder rested cool."

The captain vamosed for the cabin, and Jonathan went ashore. The captain did not take any more "way passengers" for the remainder of the summer.

Harvey Over.—Two orators engage meeting on the road to Augusta, Georgia, the following dialogue took place between the drivers:

"What's cotton in Augusta?" says the one with a load.

"*Cotton*," says the other.

The inquirer, supposing himself not to be understood, repeats,

"What's cotton in Augusta?"

"It's *cotton*," says the other.

"I know that," says the first, "but what is it?"

"Why," says the other, "I tell you it is *cotton*! Cotton is cotton in Augusta, and every where else that ever I heard of."

"I know that as well as you," says the first. "But what does cotton bring in Augusta?"

"Why it brings nothing there, but every body brings cotton."

"Look here," says the first vaguous, with an oath, "you had better leave the State; for I'll be whipped if you don't know too much for Georgia."

COUNT PULASKI.

AN INCIDENT AT THE SIEGE OF SAVANNAH.

On the night of the battle of Savannah, I was sent with a subaltern from Gen. Green to Count Pulaski, a noble Pole[illegible] who took a command just in our front. He was generally kind to us, and, more than once, gave us a meal. After our business was finished, the Count asked me to take some refreshment, and at the same time he called out—

"Stacy, my lion, Stacy!"

In an instant a very shocked girl entered, her face beaming with joy, it would seem, at the very sound of Pulaski's voice.

"Did you call me, Count?" said she, very sweetly.

"Now when have I told you, little Stacy," he said, handling his tall form to take his chair—"not to call me Count; call me your dear Pulaski. This is a Republic, my little favorite. We have no Counts, you know."

"But you are a Count, sir, when at home, and they say you raised a long way over the Cohen to fight for us."

"Yes, yes, Stacy, very true, I did cause a long way, but one reason why, was, I had in Poland no Stacy. How can you get for this gentleman and myself a little refreshment? He has a long way to ride to-night."

"Certainly, sir," and she went out of the room like a fairy.

"A fine, pleasant girl," said Pulaski.—"I would that I had the wealth that I once had, I would give her a portion that would make half the youths in Savannah offer her sweet face."

The girl soon returned, with part of a fine, cold roast fowl, delicate fresh rye bread and butter, pickles, and a few little at cakes that I relished exceedingly.

On the morning of the 11th of September, 1777, the British army advanced in full force to Chadd's Ford, for the purpose of crossing Brandywine Creek, and being on an action with Washington. Sir William Howe drew Knyphausen's division across the creek by fox o'clock, and by ten the whole army was in the field.

The Hessian General, Knyphausen, with a large force advancing up the side of the creek, and waiting with Lord Cornwallis, who commanded the left wing of the army, crossed at the upper forks of the river and creek.

It so happened that during the night of the action, in the evening orders, I passed immediately by the dwelling of Pulaski's quarters, that I had left at the night before. As I came to the house was, to the midst of the battle, entirely indrawn me to ride up. Suddenly a sheet of dense heat forth. The house was on fire. Near the door-step by the body of Hazy, her head sat upon by a robes, and her basket coming out from the terrible wound! I had not been there but a minute when Pulaski, at the head of a troop of cavalry, galloped rapidly to the house. Never shall I forget the expression of his face, as he shouted like a demon on seeing the inanimate form—

"Who did this?"

A little boy, that I had not before noticed, who was lying amid the grass, his leg dreadfully mangled, said,

"Those they go!"

He pointed to a company of Hessians, or Anspachers, then some distance off.

"Right wheel, mon—charge!"

And they did charge: I do not think ever men of that Hessian corps ever left the field, except to be placed in the grave.

The last I saw of Pulaski of the republic of Brandywine, he was bearing in his arms the lifeless form of poor Stacy.

Selected Articles.

OFFICE-SEEKING.

[The Washington "*National Intelligencer*" vouches for the correctness of the following picture of the life of an office-seeker in Washington. It was published originally in the "Natchez Courier":]

If you were ever in Washington not long after the commencement of an Administration, you will not forget the armies of office-hunters that thronged the avenues, crowded the lobbies, assailed the ante-rooms of the Secretaries of the Departments, and literally besieged the President in his own castle—the White House.

The scenes in the vestibules and ante-rooms of the Secretaries in these office-seeking times, are very rich and very humiliating. For instance, Mr. John Smith, a man of fine feelings, and a respectable citizen in his own town, comes up to get, if he can, the appointment of a one thousand dollar post office. He is backed by "all his friends;" has letters from Colonel Bell, who once shook hands with the President, from Mr. Dash, who "stumped it" in the stage with the President's mother; from Hon. Peter Forbuzy, who was once a Representative in Congress, and had been promoted, with fifty others, to his Excellency in the East room at a levee, and reminds him of it in his letter; and perhaps a letter from Mrs. Brimble, an ex-Senator's lady, to the lady of the President.

Armed thus, Mr. John Smith deems himself irresistible. He repents to carry all before him. He alights from the cars in Washington, and hurries to his hotel, where he washes himself, and puts on his best suit of clothes, and then sallies forth to the Capitol. Arrived there, he ascends to the Senate wing, finds his Blank with ease, then ascends a room at Gadsby's. He the next day walks among the big bugs as big a bug as they. He delivers his letters. He finds the President's lady in out, and gives it to the porter.—He has not been a week in Washington, at three dollars and a half a day at Gadsby's, before he learns the late hours, that in Washington letters of introduction are a mockery of time, that "members of Congress" are "members of course," are untenured worthless.—Nobody reads or notices them. They prove nothing. Two words with an honorable Senator or honest Representative from the applicant's part of the country a President or Secretary thinks more of than a mail-bag of "letters of introduction." The man who goes without one is more likely to succeed than he who depends on them. I would sooner trust a man who carried his character in his face rather than in his pocket.

Mr. Smith having delivered his letters, and especially that to the President, goes at the reception hour to the White House to see him.—The President usually receives men on business from ten to one. During those three hours the office-seekers throng the hall and out-chamber to his room, each waiting his turn; for it is first come first served. Mr. John Smith having made his way to the landing, finds its filled with people, like a depot platform waiting for the train. Some of the men pace up and down rapidly at every turn, casting their eager glances at a shut door, outside of which stands a servant with his hands filled with cards; for each visitor as he came up handed his card, till the attendant holds a pile of fifty, laid in regular order. Mr. Smith has come late, he has delayed to be more than usually particular about his toilet, and his card needs the fifty-first; that is, fifty men have got to have audience before *his* turn comes. But he is yet innocent of this fact; (but he learns it by heart by-and-by.) He now bows respectfully to the waiter, and asks him why he does not announce him by going in and telling the President he is waiting.

"The President is engaged," answers the man, rather shortly.

Before Mr. Smith can say more he is hustled away by seventeen gentlemen, each anxious to know when *his* turn turn is coming. They hear, and go pacing up and down again. What a noise! Full one hundred boots trampling up and down in ceaseless footfalls. Men can't sit still waiting in suspense. They must keep in motion. Mr. Smith thinks he never saw so much walking. Hardly two gentlemen walked in pairs.—Every man seemed to pace up and down alone, and be shy of his neighbor. Doomed all to be strangers to each other, and felt that the presence of the rest interfered with their own success and prospects of audience. Mr. Smith thought they all wore a secret and had a sheepish look. After waiting an hour, he begins to feel sheepish himself. He feels it is beneath his dignity to be dancing attendance this way—he, a free American! He has been full a score attended one by one. It is four approaching one o'clock. He is now about to go in his turn, when three members of Congress appear, and the man is gently put back, and the members admitted.

Mr. Smith sighs at this new obstacle. His fancy conceives a confused procession of H. C.'s calling on the President. Mr. Smith goes away at one o'clock, his card the thirty-fourth on the list.

"Come again to-morrow," says the patient attendant.

The next day he is at his post with four-score more. But it is a committee day, and the President is closeted with detailed committees from the Senate or House from ten to one. *Not a word* is admitted by card! After three weeks, Mr. Smith sees the President, to be told "to leave his papers, and they will be examined." He waits three weeks more in the ante-room to get a second audience, and then is told to call in six months if he has "examined his papers." The President refers him to the proper Department, and Mr. Smith thinks he never saw so much bobbing, bowing, and scraping as he finds in the Secretary's room next door. Here he has his first taste of Executive patronage. He has his first specimen of Executive favoritism. He sees the favorite smile and nod of hail-fellow. He sees the favorite [illegible] At length, in despair, he resigns the Secretary to his struggling like his envelope.

"Oh, oh, Mr. John Smith! Then, sir! The poor papers have been examined, and they are positively unobjectionable. But—"

"Positively unobjectionable, sir! I am delighted!" exclaimed Mr. Smith, with capacious hopefulness.

"But I am sorry to have to say, that the office you seek is not vacant. It is now defunct—has ceased to exist the present fourteen. Good-evening, Mr. Smith."

Mr. Smith looks after the Secretary's carriage as it rolls away. His eyes are dim with tears. He thinks of Mr. Gobi at Gadsby's, honored on large; of the borrowed money on which he came on; of his debts; of his wife and children; of his self-confidence; and the next morning Mr. Smith's body is found in Goose River!

The Coroner's Inquest reported, "Death by drowning." The Recording Angel records, "Death by office-seeking."

THE POOR MAN'S FAIRIES.

BY CHARLOTTE YOUNG.

Oh! mine is a fairy home,
Tho' 'tis humble enough and poor;
There are points of view they find
All over the crooked floor.

There are sounds as of silk gone,
That awake me at peep of day;
There are rose things about my pink,
Ere I start with my spade away.

Last night, one I bet the field,
A friend, with a smiling face,
Came to ask me to go with him
To some merry canvassing place.

But meet-night that the while he talked
I was touched with a magic wand—
With a sparkling glimpse of scenery eyes,
And a look I can ne'er withstand.

I saw one sweet maiden face
Await in the porch for me,
While three little fairy elves
Were as merry as elves could be.

I saw their sweet looks of love,
And my heart out off through the wood;
So I bade my old friend good-night,
And followed as fast as I could.

One fairy had made my tea,
And another had sliced my bread,
And a tiny one had clambered my knee
For a kiss ere she went to bed.

And here is the fairy queen,
And Harry, and Jane, and Kate,
Are the three little busy elves
Who clustered around my gate.

Oh! mine is a fairy home,
Tho' men say there are fairies no more;
Still they beckon me when I come,
And pour in at my cottage door.

A WESTERN STEAMER.

Rev. J. F. Thompson, one of the editors of the N. Y. Independent, who has lately been on a Western tour, thus sketches a Western steamer:

A Western steamboat is at first sight a novelty to one familiar only with Eastern models. The boats on the Western waters are very slightly built, more shells of pine, shallow, long, narrow, flat-bottomed, open and floating on all sides, just as was described in Bayard's pre-census. There is no cabin either below upon the deck or upon it. The engines are placed immediately on deck, two huge furnaces flaming upon you as you enter the boat, and giving you rather uncomfortable hints of a choice between fire and water in meeting your exit from the world. This passing suggestion grows into a fixed apprehension when you notice the carelessness of the attendants, and the inconvenience of the engineers and firemen. Huge flaming brands and coals are dropped constantly upon the thinnest possible sheathing of shavings, in many places worn through to the plank; heated pipes on which you cannot bear your hand are in immediate contact with boards as dry as tinder, and perhaps already charred; goods, you know not how inflammable, are strewn promiscuously around the boilers, while huge piles of dry pine wood waiting to be consumed, are crowded in the vicinity of the fire. But not every traveller has the habit that I possess to, of paying into every thing about him, and therefore few probably enjoy the peculiar sensation of sailing on the rim of a volcano. However there is nothing like getting used to it, and I learned to sleep quite soundly directly over the boiler—for one most commonly chooses a state-room either over the boiler or along side the wheel. The cabin is up stairs, and extends nearly the whole length of the deck, over which it is perched upon sundry rude posts. Along this runs two hall for a summer's houses; this is divided into a long, narrow saloon from stem to stern, and a row of state-rooms on either hand. An apartment for ladies is curtained off at one extremity, while the main saloon is used for meals, conversation, promenading, card-playing, and whatsoever one may list. The kitchen, pantry, bar, &c., are all contiguous to the saloon; with every convenience for "the above states," so that a passenger may be furnished with every article without leaving anything of the deck-life below. Some of the state-rooms that both open into the saloon and upon the guard are very airy and pleasant. If, however, there is any deficiency in regard to neatness and comfort, it is in this department of the boat. We took passage in the Prairie State, one of the best boats on the river. The furniture was neat and the table excellent—always excepting the pepper-box, which was covered with very little original motive power of their own. Do not let this make you talk as if merit were utterly neglected in these or any professions; only that getting well into the groove will frequently do instead of any great exertions.

Whatever happens, do not be dissatisfied with your worldly fortunes, lest that speech be justly made to you, which was once made in a repining person much given to talk of how great she and hers had been. "Yes, madam," was the chuckling reply, "we all find our level at last."

Eternally that fable is true, of a chicken being given to men on their entrance into life. Two majestic women stand before you: one is all vesture, superb, with what seems like a mural crown on her head and plenty in her hand, and something of triumph; I will not say of boldness, in her eye; and she, the queen of this world, can give you many things. The other is beautiful, but not alluring, nor rich, nor powerful; and there are traces of care and shame and sorrow in her face; and (marvelous to say) her look is downcast and yet noble. She can give you nothing, but she can make you somebody. If you cannot bear to part from her sweet mildness consecration which hardly veils with sorrow its nobility, follow her; follow her, I say, if you are really minded so to do; but do not, while you are on this track, look back with ill-concealed envy on the glittering things which fall in the path of those who prefer to follow the rich dame, and to pick up the riches and honors which fall from her cornucopia.

This is to embalm one what a true artist said to me only the other day, impatient, as he held me, of the complaints of those who would pursue art, and yet would have fortune.—*Companions of My Solitude.*

☞ Progression or Mankind.—Goethe, speaking of the perfectibility of the human understanding, says: "It is always advancing, but in a spiral line. Like a pointer covering a field, it returns on its steps, and going backwards and forwards, before it advances, finally discovers its game."

For Housekeepers.

Worcestershire Jelly.—Fish and weak veal quart of ripe whortleberries, and one quart of ripe white currants, put them into a pitcher, or any similar convenient vessel, cover the pitcher closely, place it in a kettle of boiling water over the fire, and let the fruit boil constantly for one hour and a half; then strain the liquor through a fine wire sieve into a preserving pan, and add one pound of fine white sugar to every pint of the liquor, then boil the liquor five minutes, remove it from the fire, and let it stand until it has become cool; then pour it into the jelly glasses, and let it stand in the glasses twenty-four hours; then cover the top of each jelly with a circular paper wet with brandy, cover the glasses tightly, and keep them in a cool place until the jelly is wanted.—*Mrs. Bliss.*

Cake Cakes.—One pint good cream, one of buttermilk, one egg, one teaspoonful of saleratus, and one teaspoonful of salt. Stir in meal till it forms; put on saucers. If made of good meal this will be excellent cake.

Puff-balls for Worms.—A writer who signs himself M. B. C., states that the common puff-ball is perhaps the best possible application for a fresh cut or bleeding wound. Close the wound quickly as possible, break open the puff-ball and apply it directly, tying it on; it will stop the bleeding almost instantaneously, protect the wound like a cauterize, so that you can scarcely see the cut is; and if the wound is not severe, you have only to let it alone, and it will be well almost before you are aware of it.

Agricultural.

RAT KILLING.

Of all the feats of rat killing I ever witnessed, none equalled that of a Yankeetown, of the name of Featherstone, by means of steel traps. He had a premises under his control, which he occupied, and there was a large crib, which he emptied in his operations, he found the tracks of the rats along the floor to the tops of the walls, leading erroneously by the corners of the apartments to the partition walls, which they encountered below the decks. After he had discovered their retreat route, he made a number of small boxes of corn, which he placed against the bottom of it wall in the apartments in which rats had been noted upon the floor, and almost upon the roof. He next began at one place at a time, and a greater number of him of clear ware used them annoyly to conceal the number of traps at each place, employing his entire number at three places, at a little distance from each other, and in different apartments.—The traps were set in a room behind the bodies of dirks, and not allowed to spring at first, and baited with cold meat, secured with oil of [illegible], with a little of the nicest corn thrown over them. They were then baited for two days, the baiting renewed as soon as it was disturbed, by inspection, that they had been consumed. On those days people were prevented as much as possible, from frequenting the apartments in which the traps were placed, and dogs were entirely excluded. Removing the decks from the springs on the third day, and casting himself on a clear sheet which, being a game-bag sewed into shoulders, Featherstone was ready on the alert; and the moment he heard the click of a trap he ran to it, removed the bundle of straw, knocked the rat on the head, if alive, threw it out of the trap, set it again, replaced the bundle, bagged the rat—all in a few seconds—and then resumed the watch. In the course of the day, from morning to afternoon, he had collected from a hundred to eighty-five rats; and allowing every trap to have done equal execution, each had caught more than eighteen rats. He bargained for one penny a rat and his food; and in three days he earned in money £7 11s. 1d.—All the rats were of course not cleared of by this capture; but they received such a thinning as to prove comparatively harmless for years. Featherstone's first business on the day following the capture, was to clean each trap bright before putting out on his journey; and he seemed to place greater reliance on the cleanly state of his traps than on any other circumstance—and therefore, no doubt, the completion of the rats was always.—*Stephens' Farmers' Guide.*

Curious Phenomena.—The following statement of a curious phenomenon in vegetable life, must, I think, prove valuable to every fruit-grower and agriculturist, as it is certainly interesting, to every investigator of vegetation.—About the first of July, I observed in a small gay orchard, a short distance from our village, some six or eight large and healthy looking trees, entirely divested of the bark, from the lower limbs to the ground, a space of more than six feet. I inquired of the owner, who, with a neighboring farmer was standing by, "whether he desired to kill those trees?" He replied that he did not; but that he had removed the bark in order to improve their fruit and general health. This, with my views of the vegetable economy, appeared an oddity ridiculous, that I laughingly remarked, "he might just as well cut off a man's head, and expect him to live on in renewed and vigorous health." He told me that he once thought so also, but he now knew that when the bark was entirely stripped from the body of a tree, *during any of the three or four longest days of June*, it would be replaced with new bark, and the tree would be altogether more thrifty. I looked on my hand with a very significant gesture, inquired "if he ever ate any particularly roasted beables the trees?" His neighbor then interposed, and assured me that all I had been told was serious truth, and that if I would go with him to his orchard, he would show me healthy and flourishing trees, that had been barked in the same way some years before, the bark now perfectly renewed. I did not go to see them, but a few days ago I examined those first mentioned, and found that the denuded trunk covered with a new growth of bark more than an eighth of an inch thick. I have passed those trees almost daily, since the commencement of this process, and could not discover that the maturation of the fruit had been at all retarded, or that the verdure underwent the slightest change.

In the publication of this case, it is my desire to call the attention of some one of your readers, acquainted with this process and its ramifications, to the subject, and ask for its explanation. In my inquiries thus far, I have met with but three intelligent individuals who were willing to believe the story, and none that could explain, by any rational process, the theory upon which the physiological rationale is based. For my own part I have none to offer; for this is a branch of natural science that I have never given the careful study it deserves. I simply submit the statement, vouching for its truth, and would say, that whenever a confusion its explanation, will endeavor to answer the following queries:—How is the circulation carried on after the bark is removed? What is that peculiar influence of season, exerted within those three or four days in June, at which time, it is said, the experiment is only successful, that causes the restorative process in the renewal of the bark? and how is this renewal effected?—*Correspon. of Ledger, Darby, Del. Co., Pa.*

J. W. Bunting, of Andalusia, Bucks County, thus replies to the above:

It is the prevalent impression, even among scientific men, that all circulation is conducted through the medium of the cortex; but this is unfounded. The circulation in plants is perfectly analogous to that in animals; one set of vessels conveying the sap *from*, another set returning it *to*, the earth. The sap *ascends* through the liberiform, and after performing its functions *descends* through the vessels of the cortex.

As it is essential to the animal economy that all the blood carried by the arteries from the heart, should, not having otherwise disposed of, be conveyed by the veins back to the heart; so is it equally essential to the physiological organization, that all the sap that ascends through the vessels of the liberiform should be returned through the proper vessels, unless disposed of otherwise.

This prepares us to answer his second inquiry: "What is the peculiar influence of that particular season, (i. e. about the four longest days in June?)". I believe the operation may be successfully performed at any time the tree has attained its full vigor. This usually occurs about the latter end of this month. The fruit is now rapidly increasing in bulk, and requires all the sustenance the tree can impart to it. Hence very little of the sap is returned to the earth; and if the tree be now denorticated, its retreat is cut off entirely. It is then taken up by the fruit, which is consequently more vigorous and luxuriant than if less amply supplied with this fructifying principle.

The new bark is formed in the same manner as the new cuticle is in animals—by a secretion thrown out by the circulating fluid.

Virginia Wool.—Nineteen years ago, as we passed through Western and Middle Virginia, they were speculating on the probable advantage of introducing sheep husbandry. What was then probability is now certainty. A few Northern land growers, according to the Richmond *Whig*, have settled in the range of counties immediately under the Blue Ridge, extending from the Potomac to the frontier of North Carolina, consisting of Fauquier, Orange, Albemarle, Henry, and Patrick. The sheep are healthy, the grasses which sustain them grow luxuriously, and wool-lens are secure. In some of these counties unoccupied land is to be had for fifty cents per acre. To protect the sheep from dogs, who are more dangerous than wolves, the method of putting a ball on one in ten of the flock has been adopted. Dogs that kill sheep do it at night and in silence, but the noise of the ball tinctures and drives them off.—*New York Post.*

Potato Rot.—The potato rot seems to be very extensive in New York State. Potatoes, which looked fine only a week ago, are found blighted. Many have commenced digging them earlier than usual, with a view to saving them if possible; but it seems to make but little if any difference. In a few hours, from fine, healthy bulbs, they waste away with disease in a most unaccountable manner. Many of the potatoes which are sold in the Philadelphia markets are certainly affected with the same disease. We do not know in what particular quarter they have been raised, but we noticed the fact and infer that the injury has been quite extensive.

THE BLOOMER DRESS.

AN ANSWER TO AUNT PATSY.

BY MRS. SYNDENHAM.

In last week's Visitor, Mrs. Gage takes us to task for our assumed heresies. As for the Bloomer dress, we have worn it, lectured, and considered it, and so entirely disgusted with it, that we could not act conscientiously with it on it a dark room, alone, much less where any one could see us. In order to bring some health-ful reform into the present dress, is to [illegible] it. But to make us go in it, is to be unhealthful—as may the eater; but it is most fatal to unhealthful disease. To be half dressed and not clothed, is what we can dress more injurious than the most close long skirt that ever swept pavements in Broadway. As to Mrs. Gage's difficulty about how we would get up the outer steps with heavy skirts, we would inform her that the right hand, and hold up our dress with the left, as if both were to be employed, to avoid, before dancing, rain it back to our sides, place our elbow on it, and when we reach the top step, lift our elbow, and let it drop. A cold bather you would be to wear short skirts, while at work, while bathed the bodies of washing the ground, when the wearer stands erect. Then the outside go upstairs without dragging on them.

Mrs. Gage's spiritual manner represent it a [illegible] to the question. She would save "a needless four million of dollars" per annum by making every women's dress a quarter of a yard shorter than they are now worn! Well, we find about this as Paddy did about the cooking stove which he was told would save half the fuel. "So did, tell!" said Pat, "why not put two on then, and save it all?" If short skirts will save enough, four millions, why not do without skirts, and save forty-eight? If ten yards of silk will make a Bloomer dress, five will make eight trousers and jacket; and if each man and boy build two school-houses in